

10/680,834

REVISED ENCLOSURE (B)

AMENDMENT (A) CLAIMSClaims What is claimed is:

- 5 1. (amended) A refractory fireback for use in domestic open fireplaces and which in use surrounds ~~[[the]]~~ a fire bed and which extends upwardly to a throat which in use connects with a chimney, the fireback having walls with inner surfaces that slope forming one of a generally frustoconical and pyramidal shape and sloping steadily inwardly towards the throat to decrease the cross sectional area of the
- 10 inner surfaces of the fireback, the cross section of the fireback having a larger area being at a height substantially at the level of the fire bed and a smaller area being adjacent the throat.
- 15 2. (original) A fireback as claimed in Claim 1 wherein the inner surfaces of the fireback walls have at least in some places their surface area increased by having raised surface features thereon.
- 20 3. (currently amended) A fireback as claimed in Claim 2 wherein the inner surface surfaces have at least in some area areas, corrugations or undulations formed thereon.
- 25 4. (currently amended) A fireback as claimed in Claim 3, wherein the corrugations or undulations form peaks ~~lying in planes~~ extending substantially parallel to the base of the fireback.
5. (currently amended) A fireback as claimed in ~~Claims~~ Claim 1, wherein the inner surfaces of the fireback slope inwardly at an angle of between 15-25 degrees of arc from the vertical, ~~preferably about 24 degrees.~~

6. (canceled)

7. (cancelled)

5 8. (cancelled)

9. (cancelled)

10. (cancelled)

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11. (currently amended) A fireback as claimed in Claim ~~[[6]]~~ 15, wherein the fireback is formed as a single refractory cement casting.

12. (currently amended) A fireback as claimed in Claim ~~[[8]]~~ 17, wherein the  
15 fireback is formed as a single refractory cement casting.

13. (currently amended) A fireback as claimed in Claim ~~[[6]]~~ 15, wherein the base portion of the fireback from its base to a height substantially level with the fire bed may be vertical.

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14. (currently amended) A fireback as claimed in Claim ~~[[8]]~~ 17, wherein the base portion of the fireback from its base to a height substantially level with the fire bed may be vertical.

25 15. (new) A fireback as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the inner surfaces of the fireback are of generally frustoconical shape and are semi-circular in horizontal cross-section with the fireback opening being formed on the diameter thereof.

16. (new) A fireback as claimed in Claim 5, wherein the inner surfaces of the fireback are of a generally pyramidal shape.

17. (new) A fireback as claimed in Claim 16, wherein the fireback has a polygonal  
5 base having at least six sides with the fireback opening being formed on a centre  
line of the base.